

OCT 12 2001

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MR. WHEELER: Thank you, sir. My name is Ed

20 Wheeler, and I heard a lady comment about the

21 government subsidies in the nuclear industry, and I

22 just wanted to say, in the early '50s, I don't recall

23 exactly when, but the United States Government paid

24 prospectors or gave them a reward for something like in

25 the neighborhood of \$20,000 to discover uranium, and it

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1 was a uranium -- so it's -- this subsidy started years

2 and years ago and still comes today at this time.

3 My only concern about Yucca Mountain was, and

4 I've been over there several times, I've made several

5 visits, and the, from what I understand is is that

6 Yucca Mountain evolved from a volcano that blew in

7 there, and there's a piece of big huge mountain of

8 volcanic ash or changed over the millions of years. My

9 concern has always been is what was there prior to all

10 of this volcanic buildup that's there. And the

11 neighboring surrounding areas around Yucca Mountain is,

12 is a formation that many prospectors has saw 40 miles

13 from here in California, and in Kingston Range, and it

14 is recorded in San Bernardino County, Recorder's

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15 Office, in 1909, that prospectors prospected up there,
16 and they named their discovery Topopah, Topopah one,
17 two, three, Topopah Springs. Now this is in 1909, and
18 the reason that they named those names was because of
19 the facts that the formation of the rock formation and
20 the minerals that came up through water solutions into
21 that area is the same as it is in the surrounding areas
22 of Yucca Mountain.

23 I haven't seen, and I've read many, many, and
24 been over there several times, and I haven't -- I've
25 talked to those scientists over there, and I haven't

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1 read any place where it said that they have studied
2 below where the volcanic mountain came there millions
3 of years ago. And my problem is is that what happens
4 is if the solutions that carried the water, rather the
5 solution that carried the minerals up into the surface,
6 now is on the floor of Yucca Mountain? Whether or not
7 that's been studied, now we have perched water, and
8 when I first went over there several years ago, I can't
9 recall exactly when, but they told us there was no
10 perched water and that was back, I believe in the early
11 '90s. They said no perched waters in Yucca Mountain.

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12 Somehow somebody has been truthful and said, yes, there
13 is. And now I read tonight in that book over there
14 that says some of that's 11 million years old, that
15 perched water. When did the mountain came in there?
16 There's something contradictory there,
17 because the scientists told me that the mountain was
18 blown in there from a volcano, but not, did not have
19 perched water. It's just, it was blown in there from
20 ash and rewelded. There's a lot of problems, yet some
21 of those scientists I don't quite understand, and I've
22 studied. All I am is just a simple pick and shovel
23 prospector, but I do understand -- I'm not a geologist,
24 I don't claim to know very much more than just how to
25 handle a pick and shovel, but there's a problem that I

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1 have with a recorded document in 1909, Topopah Springs.

2 My daughter has a mill site in Pahrump named
3 Topopah. Mill site. That Topopah mill site was, I
4 believe if I'm not mistaken, recorded in Nye County in
5 1982, '3 or '4, somewheres in that neighborhood, and
6 she had a claim next to this Topopah, and that Topopah,
7 again, once again, that Topopah formation that carried
8 mineral solutions up to the surface, those prospectors,

9 I just -- I have now asked many people, where did you
10 get the name of Topopah Springs out here? Thank you
11 very much, sir. Thanks for your time.

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